(c) whether plan expenditure has been utilised proportionately during the period of Ninth Five Year Plan so far; and

(d) if so, the details of the expenditures incurred on ongoing and new plans ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) Planning Commission has approved an overall outlay of Rs. 78,401.00 crores for petroleum and natural gas sector during Ninth Five Year Plan including Rs. 4054.37 crores for its petrochemical and Rs. 332.45 crores for its engineering operations. The approved outlay is only in respect of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in oil sector. The above outlay approved by Planning Commission does not provide for any Budgetary support to oil PSUs. Planning Commission does not approve the outlays for the private sector.

The actual expenditure during April, 1997 to July, 2001 has been of the order of Rs. 45, 082 crores approximately.

During 2001-2002, Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 17,147.26 crores for various on-going and new plans of public sector oil companies, against which approximately Rs. 2,469 crores has been spent during April—July, 2001.

Irregularities in Petro-Card Scheme

†3958. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Petro-Card campaign was launched by Bharat Petroleum during March, 2001 under which some registered customers have not been issued cards even now, while some of them have been given defective cards which could not be made usable despite repeated rectifications as in the case of Card No. 7241760110390864, 7241763110345761 etc.; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to issue flawless cards, refund the registration fee and to compensate the petro-bonus ?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) There was delay in dispatch of cards to some customers due to delay in receipt of cards from the manufacturers. However, the backlog has since been cleared. Also wherever any defects in the cards were brought to the notice of BPCL, the same were rectified.

Card No. 7241760110390864 has been received from the customer for replacement as it had a defect in the software. A new card is being sent to the customer along with a complimentary credit of 500 Petromiles (Points) for the inconvenience caused to the customer.

No Card bearing No. 7241763110345761 has been issued.

(b) The reasons for the defective cards have since been identified and rectified. Complimentary credit of Petromiles (Points) are being provided to customers if inordinate delay in the dispatch of the rectified cards had occurred.

Rise in international crude oil vis-a-vis domestic oil prices

3959. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has been giving assurances repeatedly that there will be no need to raise domestic prices of petro-goods inspite of increasing international crude prices; and

(b) if so, the details of corrective measures taken to tide over the impact of rising international crude price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

New National Energy Policy

3960. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a national energy policy in view of rising global prices of crude oil following an Iraqi decision to stop sales;